

24 July 1958

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SURVEY (NIS)

This year marked the tenth anniversary of NIS operations pursuant to NSC Intelligence Directive No. 3 of 13 January 1948. In ten years' time the NIS program has established a uniquely consistent and sustained record of development, production, and dissemination of basic intelligence required in the active support of the national security.

NIS production during the year substantially exceeded the yearly goal set by the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) and brought the total produced thus far to 4,260 NIS sections. This represents more than 71% of initial world coverage, and on the JCS high-priority areas coverage is now over 95% complete. One-third of the year's production effort went into the maintenance revision of published NIS sections.

Major accomplishments this year include development and active production of NIS Annuals to provide interim maintenance for the Chapters I (Brief). The recurrent problem of unbalanced production showed definite signs of improvement, particularly among the Defense Agencies. The Department of State has faced serious staffing problems over the past several years during the integration of departmental staffs into the Foreign Service and, as a result, its NIS production has been seriously unbalanced. However, corrective measures have been instituted and, through their continuation, it is believed State will progressively stabilize its production.

In all respects this has been a successful year of operations, with the usefulness of the NIS extended, new requirements developed, and a wholehearted support evidenced by all participating agencies.

The first decade of the NIS program was primarily concerned with the initial production of basic intelligence on a world-wide basis. The major portion of that initial phase has been completed and maintenance requirements to ensure the continuing validity and adequacy of published NIS are increasing steadily. Actually, more maintenance production should now be underway than present capabilities permit.

Continuation of present production capabilities will enable the NIS program to attain the JCS requirement of 500 sections annually. By 30 June 1961, initial world coverage should be 90% complete, including 100% coverage on JCS high-priority areas. More than half of yearly production effort will be devoted to maintenance and about 35% of all published NIS will have been revised under the maintenance program.